

attached to a sink. In order to use it, the employee must be able to stand on two feet and bend over to the sink. It cannot be moved, and cannot be brought to an immobilized, prone victim. I think that most people would agree that this type of fountain is far less useful than a portable eyewash bottle with a buffer solution. However, OSHA felt otherwise. They seem to believe that strict adherence to some arcane regulation, regardless of its cost or practicality, is more important than the goal of protecting people's eyes, something that my constituent was obviously trying to do.

This is just one of countless examples that I could cite that represent the absurdity of our regulatory system. I chair the Regulatory Reform and Paperwork Reduction Subcommittee of the House Small Business Committee. Last week, we held a joint hearing that looked at the use of sound science in Federal agency rulemaking. We heard testimony from distinguished scholars who indicated that Federal agencies often initiate the development of new regulations without a solid foundation of scientific evidence to support their decisions. When this occurs, the small business owners of America are left holding the bag.

The next logical question is: What can be done about this? To its credit, Congress has already done something. Last year, the Congress passed the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act, better known as SBREFA. This was truly landmark legislation that should help improve the regulatory process. Contained within this legislation is an often overlooked authority that allows Congress to disapprove new regulations before they take effect. This process, commonly referred to as the Congressional Review Act, gives the legislative branch a direct role in the regulatory formation process. While on its own it may not mean foolish regulations like the one my constituent has to deal with will no longer exist. However, it does mean that Congress can at least attempt to prevent new regulations of questionable substance from taking effect in the future.

The problem, however, is that Congress has not exercised its new authority under the Congressional Review Act. Since this authority became effective on March 29, 1996, roughly 3,600 new regulations have gone into effect, including 61 major rules. However, only a handful of resolutions of disapproval have been introduced, and the House of Representatives has yet to even consider one such resolution.

Why has Congress been so reluctant to use this authority? It is my opinion that Congress has been slow to take advantage of the Congressional Review Act because it lacks accurate and reliable data with which it can challenge the information of the promulgating agency. In many cases, new rules are highly complex and technical in nature. Members have neither the time nor the expertise to assess the information that the agency is using to base its regulatory decisions upon. Until Congress has access to reliable nonpartisan information, it is my belief that the Congressional Review Act will remain a paper tiger, with no real effect on improving the quality and number of regulations that are implemented.

To help in this process, I am developing legislation that should provide Members of Congress with timely and useful information with which they can assess the actions taken by

the promulgating agency. All too often a regulatory agency either ignores or half-heartedly meets the regulatory analyses that it is mandated by statute to conduct. This must stop. With accurate and reliable information, Members will have a credible, factual basis on which to judge whether a specific regulation is needed or is consistent with congressional intent.

We all agree and support having a clean environment and safe workplaces, and I want to be clear that I fully support the need for strong safeguards for our environment and the American worker. However, we must ensure that the ways in which we achieve these goals are based on sound science and take into account the legitimate concerns of the small businesses that will be regulated. It is my sincere hope that Congress can in fact become more active under the Congressional Review Act, and put an end to some of the irrational regulations that Federal agencies continue to develop.

TRIBUTE TO REV. MILTON BRUNSON

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to comment on the life and legacy of a great musician, tremendous clergyman, dedicated community leader, and a wonderful American, the late Reverend Milton Brunson, who passed away on Tuesday, April 1, 1997. I share the words of his wife Joanne that "Reverend Brunson touched so many people's lives its hard to imagine".

On April 25, 1997, Reverend Brunson would have celebrated the 49th anniversary of the Thompson Community Singers, which he helped to found in 1948. At the age of 18, while a senior at McKinley High School and director of the Gospel Chorus at St. Stephens A.M.E. Church, Reverend Brunson teamed up with Dorothy Mercer Chandler to found the Thompson Community Singers. Ms. Chandler, a gifted organist in her own right, worked closely with Reverend Brunson to keep the group together for 49 years, performing across the United States and throughout the world. The Thompson Singers performed at the Chicago Gospel Festival, the Apollo Theater, Madison Square Garden in New York, and on stages in England, Italy, and other foreign countries.

On several occasions, the Thompson Singers produced the No. 1 religious recording, and, in fact, won a Grammy Award. Under the leadership of Reverend Brunson, nearly 1,000 individuals were members of the Thompson Singers; also known as the Tommies. Jesse Dixon Mays, Ricky Dillard, Deloris Stamps, Ethel Holloway, and Angela Spivey, were just a few of the famous vocalists who performed with the Tommies.

In 1992, the Thompson Community Singers, directed by Tyrone Black received the Stellar Awards for Choir of the Year, Song of the Year for "My Mind's Made Up", and writer of the year, Darius Brooks. In 1995, Reverend Brunson and the Tommies won a Grammy Award for the recording "Through God's Eyes."

After several years of singing and choir directing, Reverend Brunson accepted a call to the ministry and built up the Christ Tabernacle Baptist Church located at 854 North Central Street in Chicago, IL. Under the direction of Reverend Brunson, Christ Tabernacle went from its humble beginnings to a major religious institution, with over 2,000 actively participating members.

Rev. Milton Brunson will always be remembered as a legend and a legacy. We thank him for his contributions and we wish the best for his wife Jo Ann, daughters, Donna Louise, Sanita Monique, son Kevin, and sisters, brother, and grandchildren. A talented individual, a dedicated and inspiring leader, a wise teacher, and a great American was the Reverend Milton Brunson.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TONY ZALE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to a truly remarkable man, Mr. Tony Zale. Tony passed away on March 20, 1997, in Portage, IN, at the age of 83. He was a man well known for his accomplishments as a champion boxer, contributions to his community, and devotion to his friends and family.

Tony was a champion boxer, fittingly remembered as "the Man of Steel" for both his steel-like ability to withstand and deliver powerful blows in the boxing ring, and his association with a city priding itself on its massive steel production. A native of Gary, IN, Tony began his successful boxing career in 1934 upon leaving his job as a steelworker at age 21. After experiencing a string of losses early in his career, Tony Zale first displayed his extraordinary desire to achieve when he returned to steel work at U.S. Steel in 1935. Willingly accepting the most physically challenging jobs in the mill, Tony returned to boxing in 1937 with a renewed confidence and a physique so muscular it was renowned to be "metallic." Shortly thereafter, Mr. Zale's ambition of becoming a champion boxer was fulfilled when he defeated the National Boxing Association champion in July 1940. In 1941, Tony earned universal recognition as a world titleholder as he defeated World Middleweight Champion, Georgie Abrams. When returning from his service with the U.S. Navy in 1945, Tony faced his most dangerous challenger, Rocky Graziano, for what would be the first of three brutal matches. Winning the first match, losing the second, and then regaining his title in the third, Tony Zale forever marked his place in history as a champion boxer during the epic Zale-Graziano fights. When Tony retired from boxing in 1948, he left the profession with the accomplishment of fighting and beating every contender in the middleweight division during his championship reign from 1941 through 1948. During the 1950's Tony Zale was inducted into the World Boxing Hall of Fame.

Tony put forth the same effort and dedication bettering the community in which he lived as he did during his boxing career. After retiring from boxing, Tony coached at the Chicago Park District youth boxing program, where he taught children the fundamentals of boxing, as